Amendment and Response

Scrial No.: 09/835,725 Confirmation No.: 7044 Filed: 16 April 2001

For PERFORATED FILM CONSTRUCTIONS FOR BACKLIT SIGNS

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Remarks

This Amendment and Response is submitted along with a Request for Continued Prosecution application. In response to the Office Action mailed 29 July 2003, Applicants are canceling claims 1-28 and have presented new claims 29-64.

The 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claims 1-7, 9-16, 19-25, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Andriash (U.S. Patent No. 5,939,168) in view of Ross (U.S. Patent No. 5,830,529), Detiker (U.S. Patent No. 3,694,945), or Whitehead et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,079,844).

Claims 8, 17-18, and 26-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Andriash as modified above, and further in view of Logan et al. (U.S. Patent 5,954,423).

Applicants maintain that cancelled claims 1-28 were patentable over the cited references, Applicants have canceled claims 1-28 and present herewith new claims 29-64. Applicants do, however, reserve the right to traverse the rejections of claims 1-28 and any assertions made in support of those rejections.

New Claims 29-64

New claims 29-64 define additional patentable subject matter in the area of the present invention. For example, independent claims 29 and 41 recite perforated film constructions that include an adhesive containing a reflective pigment on one surface of the constructions. Independent claim 47 recites a sign face including a perforated film construction of the present invention and independent claim 56 recites a backlit sign including a perforated film construction of the present invention. No new matter is presented with these claims.

Entry and consideration of new claims 29-64 are respectfully requested.

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Summary

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims 29-64 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted for Ellen O. AELING et al.

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(d) to the Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 2^{nd} day of February, 2004, at 189.00 (Central Time).

By: Rachel Colling - College